Andy Beshear Governor

Rebecca W. Goodman Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky

Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615
Telephone: (502) 564-3940
psc.ky.gov

Angie Hatton Chair

Mary Pat Regan Commissioner

July 1, 2025

PARTIES OF RECORD

Re: Case No. 2025-00125

Notice is given to all parties that the attached Informal Conference Memorandum and attendance list has been filed into the record of this proceeding.

If you have any comments you would like to make regarding the contents of the document, please do so within five days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Whitney Saffari, Staff Attorney, at whitney.saffari@ky.gov.

Sincerely,

Linda C. Bridwell, PE Executive Director

Attachment



#### **INTRA-AGENCY MEMORANDUM**

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**TO:** Case File No. 2025-00125

**FROM:** Whitney B. Saffari, Staff Attorney

**DATE:** June 27, 2025

**RE:** Informal Conference of June 20, 2025

Pursuant to the Procedural Schedule issued on June 13, 2025, an informal conference (IC) was conducted on June 20, 2025. Attached is a copy of the attendance roster

The purpose of the IC was to discuss Duke Energy Kentucky's (Duke Kentucky) natural gas rate case. Duke Kentucky provided a presentation, which is filed into the record with this memorandum. Duke Kentucky briefly explained its application, requests, and noted how to effectively and quickly reference the provided spreadsheets. Duke Kentucky also explained its pro forma adjustments compared to previous filings.

Furthermore, Duke Kentucky stated that in customer class cost of study (COSS), it used the zero-intercept program instead of the minimum distribution program since the Commission noted in its last order that it was the preferred program. Lastly, Duke Kentucky discussed the Rider PMM and propose project to replace the Aldyl-A pipes. Duke Kentucky clarified that the request to recover cost in the PMM would not start until the AM07 project is completed.

Staff then discussed availability of the parties in order to schedule a hearing in this matter.

There being no further discussion, the IC was then adjourned.

cc: Parties of Record

# PSC INFORMAL CONFERENCE SIGN IN SHEET

CASE NUMBER: IC 2025-00125- Duke Energy Kentucky

LOCATION: Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Blvd.

Frankfort, KY 40601

DATE: June 20, 2025 11:00 am- 12:00 pm

NAME	COMPANY
Jefferson "Jay" P. Brown	Duke Kentucky
Adam Long	Duke Kentucky
Bruce Sailers	Duke Kentucky
Rocco D'Ascenzo	Duke Kentucky
Douglas Heitkamp	Duke Kentucky
Sarah Lawler	Duke Kentucky
Tripp Coston	PSC-Director of Financial Analysis
Calvin Bailey	PSC-Legal Intern
Emma Johns	PSC-Legal Intern
Moriah Tussey	PSC- Assistant General Counsel
Sarah Jankowski	PSC- Financial Analyst
Angela M. Goad	Office of the Attorney General
Randy Futral	Office of the Attorney General
Daniel Hinton	PSC- Financial Analyst
Bentley Jarboe	PSC- Financial Analyst
Noah Abner	PSC- Financial Analyst

Mary Whittaker	PSC- Financial Analyst
Wright Williams	PSC- Staff Attorney
Whitney Saffari	PSC- Staff Attorney

Duke Energy Kentucky
Natural Gas Base Rate Case
Informal Technical Conference

CASE NO. 2025-00125



# **Agenda (Questions throughout)**

- Summary of the rate case application and drivers of deficiency
- Walk Through of Rate Case Models: Excel files provided in response to STAFF DR-01-054.
  - Revenue Requirements Model (SFRs) (Volume 10: Schedules A K)
    - Key Schedules:
      - Schedule A: Total revenue requirement and deficiency
      - Schedule B-1: Rate Base
      - Schedule C-2: Operating Income
      - Schedule D-1: Proforma Adjustments
      - Schedule J-1: Cost of Capital
  - Class Cost of Service Model (Volume 9)
  - Rate Design (Volume 11: Schedule M & N)
- Rider PMM Proposals



## **Rate Case Summary**

#### **Forecasted Test Period**

- Revenues & Expenses: January 1, 2026 December 31, 2026
- Rate Base: Thirteen-month average December 31, 2025 December 31, 2026.

### **Revenue Deficiency: \$26,387,365 or 17%**

- Schedule A Line 8
- Schedule M Line 25

#### Rate Base: \$553,831,292

- Schedule B-1 Line 13
- Schedule A Line 1

#### Rate of Return (ROR): 8.011%

- Schedule J-1 Line 5
- Schedule A Line 4

#### Return on Equity (ROE): 10.75%

Schedule J-1 Line 1



## Rate Case Summary, Continued

#### **Cost-of-Service and Rate Design**

- Moved each customer class closer to Cost-of-Service by removing 50% of subsidy
- Residential Fixed Charge: \$21.00 (Cost-of-Service Study supports \$32.56)
- Rate GS Fixed Charge: \$65.00 (Cost of-Service Study supports \$72.12)

#### **Riders**

- Continue Weather Normalization Adjustment (WNA)
- Continue and Expand Pipeline Modernization Mechanism (PMM)

#### Other

- Elimination of Soft Close Process
- Elimination of residential credit card fees



## **Rate Case Deficiency Drivers**

## Return on Rate Base Increases: resulting in \$19 million revenue deficiency

- Gross plant has increased \$153 million from \$772 million in the last rate case to \$925 million in this
  case.
- Resulting increase in net rate base of \$87 million

**Depreciation & Property Tax Expense Increases: \$9 million** 

All other Expenses Decreases: (\$2 million)





BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURE ®

\*Angela M Goad Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KY 40601-8204 \*Minna Sunderman Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*Elizabeth Brama Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP 1717 Dixie Highway, Suite 340 Covington, KY 41011-4707 \*Rocco O D'Ascenzo Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*John Horne
Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate
700 Capitol Avenue
Suite 20
Frankfort, KY 40601-8204

\*Sarah Lawler Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202 \*Tammy Meyer Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*Larisa Vaysman Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201 \*Toland Lacy Office of the Attorney General 700 Capital Avenue Frankfort, KY 40601

\*Lawrence W Cook Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KY 40601-8204 \*Valerie T. Herring Attorney Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP 2200 IDS Center 80 South 8th Street Minneapolis, MN 55402-215

\*Michael West
Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate
700 Capitol Avenue
Suite 20
Frankfort, KY 40601-8204